

Title (en)
Method and apparatus for sorting stacks

Title (de)
Verfahren und Vorrichtung zum Sortieren von Stapeln

Title (fr)
Méthode et dispositif pour trier des piles

Publication
EP 0905068 A3 19991201 (EN)

Application
EP 98307802 A 19980925

Priority
US 93639997 A 19970925

Abstract (en)
[origin: EP0905068A2] A method and apparatus for sorting books of sheets in which individual books are generated in succession is provided. This process entails the stacking of cut sheets that form a completed book in an offset arrangement relative to adjacent books. Each offset stacked book is removed from the other books by applying a lifting force between the lowest book in the stack and the next book in the stack while the lowest book in the stack is allowed to bend away from the next highest book in the stack. The bend forms a space, tunnel or separator entrance opportunity into which a projection or other separator structure is directed. The lowest book is lowered onto a conveyor and moved away from the stack. The process continues for each successive next-highest book in the stack. A support mechanism is provided to maintain the lowest book at a selected elevation as the projection moves inwardly. The support moves away concurrently to deposit the lowest book on the conveyor. A pair of alternating movable belts can be used for both the projection and the support on alternating sides of the stack. <IMAGE>

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CPC (source: EP US)
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Citation (search report)
• [A] US 5556254 A 19960917 - DARCY JAMES A [US], et al
• [A] US 3640426 A 19720208 - HAMMER MARVIN H

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